

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 14 and 15 are pending in this application. Claims 9-11, 13, 16 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution of this application. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claim 14 has been amended to include all the limitations of the base claim 9 and intervening claims 10 and 13. Claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 14. No new matter has been added.

In the Claims:

I. Claim Objections

Claims 16 and 17 are objected to for informalities relating to the term "pilot". Applicants have cancelled claims 16 and 17 thereby mooting the objection to claims 16 and 17.

II. Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Wilson (U.S. 5, 244,179) According to the Examiner, Wilson discloses a sensor 56, a pilot valve assembly to prevent or allow movement of a diaphragm 22, an arm 64 coupled to the pilot valve assembly, and an override control 66 coupled to the arm.

Applicants respectfully disagree. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claim 9. Applicants' cancellation of claim 9 thereby moots the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

III. Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 10-11, 13, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wilson in view of Gruber et al. (U.S. 4,995,585).

Applicants have cancelled claims 10-11, 13, 16 and 17 thereby mooting the Examiners rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a).

Claim 15 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wilson in view of Lee et al. (U.S. 4,886,207).

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Applicants have amended claim 15 to depend from claim 14 that the Examiner previously indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and the intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 15 is allowable over the art of record for the same reasons that the Examiner indicated that claim 14 would be allowable.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) be withdrawn.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

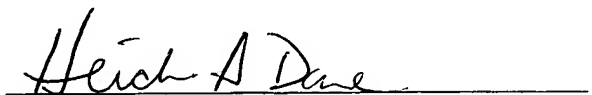
Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner has allowed claims 1-8. Applicants also gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner will allow claim 14 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 14, as discussed above.

Applicants also assert that newly amended claim 15 is allowable based on the dependency from allowable amended claim 14.

SUMMARY

In view of the remarks and amendments above, Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain, Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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